



For the sixth consecutive year, Yves Galley came to the Osugi Dojo of La Mulatière, in the suburbs of Lyon, on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th, June 2016, to lead a Jodo Gasshuku. It was a little late in the season and some regulars hadn't been able to make it because of school, clubs or family parties (End of June is the worst _or the best, according to circumstances_ part of the year in this area).

Still we had students from almost everywhere in France and Switzerland (Clermont-Ferrand, Saint-Amand-Montrond, Nice, Montreux, Bâle, ...). And with the Lyon's group (of course) and some swordsmen from the OSugi Dojo who stayed with us during the first Kenjutsu class, we were up to 16 to work together.

The training began thus on Saturday morning at 10:00 am with a Kenjutsu course during which Yves stressed the difference between the Awase and Kiri-Otoshi, and chose to work on Ai-Suri Sa and Ai_Suri Yu for the first technique, and Shibarai for the second one.

We had a quick lunch together (picnic prepared by the Jodo section), and it was followed for some of us by an even quicker afternoon nap (because the sun was really beating down), and then it was back to work up to 06:30 pm. We began with a detailed review of the Kihon Sôtai, and Yves stressed the importance of a good position of the weapon with regard to the body (the hanmi must always be such as to have the weapon alongside the body and the tip of the Jo on the central line). During this time, the two beginners of the group (and one of them was practising Jodo for the first time!) were progressing in Kihon Tandoku

Then we worked on the katas series: first the whole Omote serie, and then some Chudan Katas for those who were already in this serie. And during all the afternoon we kept on working on the Hanmi and the place of the weapon.

And then, last but not least, everybody took a Tanjo to work on Sutemi and Uchiro

On the evening we were all together at Yves and Nathalie's home. Despite all the very pessimistic weather forecast it didn't rain, so we had a barbecue outside in the garden. And, well, many people had brought some local specialties (some to eat, some to drink...), so we had a very good evening!

And on the following day we were all on the tatami at 09:00 am, fresh and well rested as usual, for the Kihons Tandoku (and the same stress on the importance of the Hanmi). Then, we split in three groups (Omote, Ran-Ai and Kage). Toward the end of this Sunday morning session, Yves took a while to work successively with each of us (and for the most ancient it was an occasion to work on Gohon-no-Midare). And during this time, the most ancient students took Ken and Kodachi and trained with the beginners.

And at noon, just before the end of the Gasshuku, we had the examinations: 3rd Kyu for Eliane and Marie-Pierre, and 1st Kyu for Pierrick. Congratulations to them and thanks to Yves who had once again accepted to be in charge!

And then it was really the end. A last picnic together (we had plenty of leftover to finish!) and then everybody went back home. And as usual I have a last thing to do: send a big "Thank you" to all people of the Lyon's group who have helped during this Gasshuku, who have cooked, helped for the registrations, hosted friends, who went shopping....they also have made this Gasshuku a success, even if we were not so many people as we had hoped to be. Anyway, can't wait for the next one!